Syllabus

Music Appreciation

Music 121 Sections E 01 & E 02 Fall 2005
Truckee Meadows Community College: WebCT

Instructor – Stuart Duke
Students can e-mail me through the Web CT e-mail function or at
studuke@charter.net

I do have a mailbox in the Part Time Faculty Support Center, room 315 on the third floor of
the Red Mountain building on the Dandini Campus, which I check periodically, however
phone messages and other documents placed there will not reach me as quickly as e-mail
which I access daily. I will make every effort to respond to your e-mails quickly and
normally, within 48 hours.

This syllabus may be subject to adjustments, as the instructor deems necessary.

Class Materials:
The 6-CD companion set of musical examples for above, along with CD(s) that come with
the textbook.
Other examples as necessary.

Course Description:
The goals of this course are:
1. To learn about the history and development of western music from ancient to
modern times.
2. To listen to a wide range of music with an emphasis on analysis and criticism.
3. To gain an appreciation of music from a wider range of sources.

( Due to time constraints, we will have to focus on Western Music. We may have only a short
time, if any, to explore other World Music.)

I recommend that you print out a copy of this syllabus and get familiar
with it!

Course Requirements and Grading:

Grades will be based on the following:

1. Two Exams (100 points each) 200 points
2. Three concert or video reviews (50 points each) 150 points
3. One Project (50 points) 50 points
4. 23 quizzes (Various points) 300 points
5. Discussion topics (Various points) 100 points

Maximum possible score: (not counting extra credit) 800 points
**Grade Scale:** (NOTE: TMCC does not award the grade of A+)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Range</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>800-750</td>
<td>B</td>
<td>692-666</td>
<td>C</td>
<td>612-587</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>532-507</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A-</td>
<td>749-720</td>
<td>B-</td>
<td>665-640</td>
<td>C-</td>
<td>586-560</td>
<td>D-</td>
<td>506-480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B+</td>
<td>719-693</td>
<td>C+</td>
<td>639-613</td>
<td>D+</td>
<td>559-533</td>
<td>F</td>
<td>479 or lower</td>
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</table>

It is the student’s responsibility to decide if they should remain in the course, change it to an audit or completely withdraw from it. If a student’s point total is 479 or less when it is time to report grades, I will issue a grade of ‘F’. I need to be made aware of any circumstances that might result in my offering an extension BEFORE the end of class instruction and I will determine the relative merit of these petitions on a case by case basis. I reserve the right to refuse any frivolous petitions. Do not wait till after the end of instruction to petition for an extension.

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**First!**

Get familiar with this syllabus and make a copy for your reference.

**How To Access Your Web-Based Classroom:**

Go to: [http://www.tmcc.edu/e-learning/](http://www.tmcc.edu/e-learning/)

Go through the 6 main items on this page and pay special attention to completing your tutorial on WebCT usage. There is a lot of information here and on the connecting pages to get you up and running in the class and to prepare your computer for this WebCT course. Every student has different hardware and software so I prefer to refer you to the experts at the E-Learning office, but if you want to ask me technical questions, I will try to help. Just don’t be surprised if I suggest that you call E-Learning.

**Questions or Problems about Access: Contact the E-Learning office: 673-7814.**

After you are connected then go to the course homepage. You may be prompted to input a PIN/ Access code to enter the class. If necessary, the code may be supplied with the textbook or purchased separately for a modest fee. I have no control over this matter, but in case it is necessary (and hopefully supplied) I recommend purchasing your textbook from the TMCC bookstore. Textbooks are available from other sources: but they may or may not have the codes (that may or may not be necessary).

Once you gain access to the class, look through all the icons to familiarize yourselves with what is available. We will start out running, so check the syllabus, the class calendar and for the first week’s assignments. Your textbook has a CD containing important software. I will post a page on the class website with important info.

Your weekly assignments will include assigned readings, including listening examples (only those included in your CD sets. You will want to study these because some of them will be the listening questions on the mid-term and final exams), self-testing with Flashcards and the practice tests, Graded quizzes, and discussion topics, checking the calendar and bulletin boards for updates, corrections, and additional materials.

You are also required to write and submit one (1) research project and review three (3) concerts or selected videos (Movies).
Listening Charts/Examples: The CD in your textbook contains software that, in most cases, makes it possible to access interactive listening charts on computers with Windows XP. Older operating systems have issues with the interactive examples that make it fail. That doesn’t mean you can’t follow the chart, only that it isn’t interactive. Check out the student tips on the web site or the “read me” file on the disc before loading the software. Even with Win XP there may be some issues making it work. I will put up a document on the web-site in “Student tips” to walk you through it.

It is important to study the listening examples (and charts) in the textbook as you read the text. They are there to help you sharpen your listening skills and learn how to recognize the musical elements that identify a musical work’s composer, style, genre and historical period. As music proceeds through history there is as definite progression from the simplest compositional forms to more complex ones. The ability to listen and recognize these forms will play a large part in your written assignments (concert reviews). Also, I will be attempting to add listening questions to the chapter quizzes and exams.

Graded Quizzes: Each chapter comes with a short graded quiz. The only place to take these quizzes and exams is on the class website. Do not attempt to take any exams on the “Listen” homepage. The quiz consists primarily, of multiple-choice questions. Eventually, I will add some listening questions. You may take the quizzes any time during the week that the chapter is assigned; however, you have only one chance to take it and once it is started there is a time limit to finish it. Generally, assignment weeks end at 10:00PM Saturdays, however this isn’t a hard and fast rule. You are responsible to check the class calendar, syllabus and e-mail messages for changes and updates. Prepare for your quizzes by accessing the “Flashcards” icon and (under the appropriate chapter) practice with the Flashcards and self-test. These are not “open book” quizzes. It is up to the student to maintain his or her honor in this matter. After a quiz is completed the student may download and print out the questions and their answers. You may want to do this because some of these questions may appear in the exams.

Exams will consist, primarily, of multiple-choice questions. If I can get the technology to work then I may add a few listening example questions taken from your CD sets. The multiple choice questions may or may not contain material covered by the chapter quizzes. I reserve the option to add, subtract, replace, re-order and re-word the questions and answers. Questions may be taken from the chapter readings, quizzes, discussion topics and additional material. There will be no cumulative exams. The midterm exam covers from the first chapter till the exam. The final exam will cover only material from after the midterm exam. There will be a time limit during the exams and listening examples (if present) can only be repeated three (3) times.

Exams will be available to the student for several days. If (by some chance) you cannot take a scheduled exam, I must be notified as early as possible! Missing an exam without telling me why, automatically gives you a grade of “0” points. The decision to reopen an exam will be based on whether I feel your reason is valid. If I feel it is valid, then I will determine a makeup time.

Good reasons include: “Death in the family” and the ever popular “breakout of Thermo-nuclear war.”

Bad reasons include: “I’m going snowboarding at Tahoe” and “My dog ate the entire contents of my house”

Do not be afraid to contact me and don’t think that I won’t give you a fair hearing. I am happy to listen to whatever you want to tell me.
Mid-Term Exam will be available from Noon; Tuesday October 25th, until 10:00 PM Thursday October 27th.
Final Exam will be available from Noon, Tuesday December 13th, until 10:00 PM Thursday, December 15th.

NOTE: this semester the Mid-Term and Final Exams do not end on Saturday like the other quizzes. DO NOT miss it by assuming that the pattern is always the same!!!

DO NOT make any travel plans during these dates!!!!!

Concert/Video Reviews: I prefer that my students attend 3 appropriate types of concerts and write me a review of the performances with an eye toward analyzing the individual musical pieces that are performed. Analysis should be based on terms and ideas you learn from the class. Open ‘Student Resources’ on the class web page and then open ‘Concert Report Guidelines’ for suggestions. Additionally, I will supply a paper with more suggestions. I realize that finances, geographic location, and other factors may make concert attendance problematic. As an alternative to attending 3 concerts, you may attend 2 concerts and write a review of one of 4 different videos that I feel have certain historical and musical usefulness and can be used to write good papers. They should be available in local video stores (you might have to request them in advance), and I will also leave copies in the TMCC library on reserve. These copies cannot be removed from the library but you can view them there. I will supply a supplemental guide sheet with the requirements for Concert or Video reviews.

All Written Assignments including Research Projects, Concert Reviews, Video Reviews and Extra Credit Projects MUST BE:

E-mailed to me as an attached Microsoft ‘Word’ Document.
Do not just type it in an e-mail message. It must be an attached document. E-mails usually cannot be formatted in paragraphs and usually do not have spelling and/or grammar checking.

It has come to my attention that you might have Microsoft Works and not MS Word. MS Works and MS Word (along with other word processors) are not compatible. I prefer your submissions in Word although I have some other available resources. **If you have a problem with this requirement I need to know as ASAP.** I do not want to wait till you have to turn in a paper to find out that there is a problem. As a last resort, you may bring a hard copy of your finished papers to the Part Time Faculty Support Center – room 315 on the 3rd floor of the Red Mountain Building on the Dandini Campus. The office staff will date your assignment and put it in my mailbox. If you use this method, please notify me through the class e-mail. I check my campus mail less frequently, so you may have to wait longer to see your grade posted.

Papers will be Double Spaced.

Fonts and Spelling: Stick with Times New Roman, regular font (not bold or italicized) either 10 or 12 point text. Check grammar and spelling. Most every computer has word processing and spell checking. Use them! Double-check the spelling of musical terms and names in your textbook, as they may be slightly different than regular spellings, however I do not yet mark off for foreign word/name punctuation. Example – the musical term “étude” may simply be spelled etude.
A Minimum of 2 Full pages. When I say two FULL pages, I mean that if 25% of the first page is used for a title, then I expect that the complete paper will be at least 2 & ¼ pages long. This is the minimum required length. Understand that if I get a minimum length paper that contains little quality writing about the topic I will award a minimum grade.

Do not feel that longer papers are bad. If you have something to say, then by all means go for it. I have had students write something like this:

“…and I see that I have reached 2 pages so this is the end.”

Papers that receive the grade of A: They are on time and have no punctuation and spelling errors. They have good sentence structure, and the text is grammatically correct. They present clear understanding of the subject and well-organized ideas along with some original thought.

Lower grades will be awarded in reflection of how many errors are present along with my judgment as to the overall strength of the content.

If you need assistance with writing composition it is available at the campus writing center at the Learning Hub in Vista Building: Room B106. It is recommended that you make an appointment several days in advance. The Writing Center phone number is: (775) 674-7517. You can also check it out online at: www.tmcc.edu/writing.

Be Opinionated and Original.

Listening to music is very subjective. Be honest and original in your writing. Don’t be afraid to go out on a limb. It isn’t necessary to “LOVE” every piece. It IS necessary to analyze the music and you should attempt to describe each piece with terminology we will learn in class. Conversely, if you hate something I expect you to tell me exactly why you hated it. What are the musical elements that caused this reaction? The rules for this are the same as stated above.

It is very important that you be original. You may quote other writers, but you must acknowledge your source appropriately. **Do Not PLAGIARIZE!!**

Plagiarism is where someone copies someone else’s writing and submits that as their original work. It is OK to quote someone else’s writings, but you have to make an appropriate citation of the actual author and publication. This holds true for internet sources as well as books. Citations are to be written at the end of the paper, on a separate, extra sheet. Additionally, citations are not counted in the total length of the paper. Plagiarism is not only grounds to flunk the course. You can be dismissed from the college for this.

*If I find copied, un-acknowledged material in your paper, your grade for that paper drops to ZERO and I will launch an investigation into your fitness to continue my course and/or remain at TMCC!*

Discussion Topics: I want to encourage everyone to actively participate in class. This includes discussion topics. I will post different discussion topics from time to time. Each topic will be open for several days, and then will be locked off. It is required that you participate and grade points will be awarded for your input. I expect to read some different opinions and points of view. You may all agree on some discussions, but it is not sufficient to simply say that you agree with “so-and-so”. You must defend your decision. Remember that you are still subject to TMCC’s code of student behavior. I will not tolerate personal attacks, profanity or any language that might be considered inappropriate or offensive.
Extra Credit: There is one class-wide extra credit project that I will release after the midterm exam. It is worth 50 points. The availability of additional extra credit is only available at my discretion. Feel free to contact me about this.

“Americans with Disabilities Act” Compliance: Qualified students with documented disabilities have the right to free accommodations to ensure equal access to educational opportunities at TMCC. For assistance and clarification contact the Disabled Student Services Office at 673-7277 or 673-7286.

You should check the course WebCt calendar, your e-mail and the bulletin board on the class web page at least once a week - more often is preferred, (I recommend daily or, at least every other day.) Keep checking the class web site for any updates and changes to the following syllabus or schedule.

It is the student’s responsibility to stay current with the class.

Tuesday September 6th is the last date to withdraw with a full refund. Monday September 19th is the last date to withdraw and receive a 50% refund.

After these dates a student may change the class to Audit or withdraw at any time during the class instruction period (you just won’t get any money back). Any student who stops participation in and submitting assignments for class, without actually withdrawing from class through proper channels, runs the risk that I might (and will) issue him or her the final grade of “F”. I also reserve the right to issue an academic withdrawal under the above circumstances - but, I rarely do this unless there is a compelling reason to do so. Finally, unless there is an extremely compelling reason, I do not issue a grade of incomplete.

(Tentative Class Schedule – All items subject to change by the instructor.)

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Week</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Topic and Assignments</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1)</td>
<td>Aug. 29th – Sept. 3rd</td>
<td>Read pp xii – xvii and 1 – 19. the “Introduction to the Student”, “Fundamentals” and chapters 1 &amp; 2. Be sure you practice and understand how the listening charts work. Concentrating on the listening example on page 4. Then read Chapters 1 &amp; 2. Study all listening examples. Quiz yourself on terms with the flashcards for each chapter. Graded quizzes for chapters 1 &amp; 2 are due by 10 PM Sat. Sept. 3rd.</td>
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<td>Tuesday September 6th - Last date to withdraw with a 100% refund.</td>
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<td>3) Sept. 11th – 17th</td>
<td>Chapters 5 &amp; 6: pp 54 – 91 Quizzes for Chapters 5 &amp; 6 are due by 10PM Sat. Sept. 17th.</td>
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<td>4) Sept. 18th – 24th</td>
<td>Chapter 7: pp 92 – 109. Your Research Project and Quiz for Chapter # 7 are due by 10 PM Sat. Sept. 24th.</td>
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Monday Sept. 19th – Last day to withdraw with a 50% refund.


9) MIDTERM EXAM:  Opens Tuesday, October 25th at 12:00 noon and closes on Thursday, October 27th at 10 PM. NOT SATURDAY!!!


11) Nov. 6th – 12th  Chapters 16 & 17: pp 249 – 287. Quizzes for Chapters 16 & 17 are due by 10:00 PM Sat. Nov. 12th.


Extended week 13 including Thanksgiving break


16) FINAL EXAM:  Opens Tuesday, December 13th at 12:00 Noon and closes Thursday, December 15th at 10PM. NOT SATURDAY!!!